

## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS MATTERS - MEXICO

REFERENCE: STATE A-6526, 8/16/74

1. THE ATTACHED REQUIREMENTS ARE IN SUPPORT OF A SPECIAL STUDY OF THE NARCOTICS SITUATION IN MEXICO AND SHOULD BE REGARDED AS SUPPLEMENTAL TO THOSE CONTAINED IN REFERENCE A-6526.

I. CHARACTERISTICS OF MEXICAN HEROIN PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING: A. PRICE (1) WHAT IS CURRENT PRICE PER KILO OF OPIUM BOUGHT IN THE FIELD? (2) WHAT IS CURRENT PRICE PER KILO OF PROCESSED HEROIN IN CULIACAN? (INDICATE WHETHER PRICE IS FOR CUT OR UNCUT.) (3) WHAT IS CURRENT PRICE PER KILO OF HEROIN AT THE U.S.-MEXICAN BORDER? (INDICATE WHETHER PRICE IS FOR CUT OR UNCUT PRODUCT.) B. CULTIVATION (1) WHAT IS ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE (A) CULTIVATION, AND (B) HARVESTING OF A TYPICAL HALF ACRE POPPY FIELD? (2) HOW MUCH OF TOTAL ESTIMATED MEXICAN CROP IS GROWN ON FEDERAL LAND; HOW MUCH ON PRIVATELY OWNED LAND? (3) WHAT IS SEASONAL PATTERN OF GROWTH BY PRODUCING AREA? (C) STRUCTURE OF MEXICAN HEROIN DISTRIBUTION  
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BUTION SYSTEM (1) WHAT IS TYPICAL METHOD OF OPERATION OF

THE LARGE TRAFFICKERS--FROM CULTIVATION TO FOREIGN DISTRIBUTION? WHO CONTROLS THE PICK-UP OF OPIUM FROM THE

FARMERS; THE LABORATORY OPERATIONS; DISTRIBUTION BEYOND THE LABORATORY? BY WHAT MEANS IS IT DISTRIBUTED--BY LAND, SEA, OR AIR? (2) DESCRIBE THE TYPICAL MODE OF OPERATION OF THE "SMALL" TRAFFICKERS. (A) DO THEY OBTAIN OPIUM AND DISTRIBUTE THE HEROIN THEMSELVES OR DO THEY SELL THE RAW OPIUM GUM OR MORPHINE BASE TO OTHERS? (B) WHAT EFFECT DOES THE CONTROL EFFORT OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT HAVE ON TRAFFICKING PATTERNS AND ON THE AVAILABILITY OF OPIUM AND HEROIN? HAS IT RESULTED IN ANY GEOGRAPHICAL SHIFT TO MORE REMOTE AREAS OF THE TRI-STATE AREA OR TO OTHER STATES? HAS IT RESULTED IN ANY CHANGE IN THE PRICES OF OPIUM AND HEROIN? HOW MANY FIELDS OF OPIUM HAS THE GOVERNMENT DESTROYED, OR CAUSED TO BE DESTROYED, DURING THE PAST YEAR--INDICATE NUMBER OF FIELDS AND APPROXIMATE ACREAGE. ARE THESE FIGURES BASED ENTIRELY ON GOVERNMENT OFFERED STATISTICS OR TO WHAT EXTENT HAVE THEY BEEN CONFIRMED? (C) HOW MANY TRAFFICKERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS; AT WHAT LEVEL WERE THEY INVOLVED IN THE TRAFFIC; AND HOW MANY OF THOSE ARRESTED WERE CONVICTED?

II. ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT CONTROL PROGRAMS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT. (A) HOW EFFECTIVELY IS US SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT BEING UTILIZED; E.G. ARE HELICOPTERS FREQUENTLY DOWN FOR EXTENDED MAINTENANCE OR FOR LACK OF SPARE PARTS? (B) FOR A TYPICAL FIELD (1/2 ACRE) WHAT RESOURCES (NUMBER OF PEOPLE AND AMOUNTS OF EQUIPMENT) AND WHAT AMOUNT OF TIME (HOURS/DAYS) IS REQUIRED TO ERADICATE A CROP EFFECTIVELY? (C) WHAT FURTHER ACTION BY MEXICAN GOVERNMENT MIGHT EXPEDITE AND IMPROVE THE ERADICATION PROCESS? (D) ARE MAJOR TRAFFICKERS NOW KNOWN OR EASILY IDENTIFIABLE BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES?

III. MEXICAN GOVERNMENT CONTROL EFFORTS (A) HOW SERIOUS IS DOMESTIC HEROIN PROBLEM IN MEXICO? WHERE ARE MOST USERS ADDICTS, TRAFFICKERS LOCATED -- IN THE MAJOR CITIES, NEAR THE COAST, ALONG BORDER? (B) WHAT CORRELATION IS IDENTIFIABLE OR ESTIMATED BETWEEN THE AVAILABILITY OF OPIUM AND  
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HEROIN AND THE LOCAL CRIME RATE? (C) ARE MEXICAN CITIZENS GENERALLY CONCERNED ABOUT A DOMESTIC NARCOTICS PROBLEM? (D) IS THERE ANY IDENTIFIABLE CONNECTION BETWEEN HEROIN TRAFFICKING AND INSURGENCY; TO WHAT EXTENT ARE THE SAME INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED?

IV. WHAT ECONOMIC FACTORS ARE IMPORTANT IN THE MEXICAN OPIUM/HEROIN SITUATION? (A) HOW IMPORTANT ARE OPIUM CULTIVATION AND HEROIN PROCESSING TO THE OVERALL ECONOMY OF THE TRI-STATE AREA?

(B) HOW IMPORTANT ARE THEY TO OTHER AREAS SUCH AS GUERRERO? (C) WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED GROSS DOLLAR

INCOME PRODUCED BY THE TOTAL MEXICAN OPIUM/HEROIN "INDUSTRY?" (D) WHAT ARE THE ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBERS INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND TRAFFICKING IN OPIUM PROCESSORS, TRAFFICKERS, MULES, ETC.? (E) WHO ARE THE PERSONS, OR SEGMENTS OF MEXICAN SOCIETY, WHO ARE RECEIVING THE BULK OF THE PROFIT DERIVED FROM THE OPIUM/HEROIN TRAFFIC?

V. ECONOMIC LEVERAGE (A) WHAT SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES ARE OUTSTANDING IN MEXICO WHICH COULD BE EXPLOITED FOR BARGAINING PURPOSES IN FURTHER DEVELOPING THE NARCOTICS CONTROL EFFORT IN MEXICO? (B) WHAT PROPORTION OF THE TOTAL MEXICAN EXPORTS ARE FROM MAJOR OPIUM PRODUCING STATES?

VI. BORDER AND DOMESTIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES (A) WHAT ADDITIONAL DOMESTIC MEXICAN ENFORCEMENT MEASURES COULD BE UNDERTAKEN TO SUPPORT THE NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM IN MEXICO?

VII. IN RESPONSE PLEASE CITE C-CI-5-59254. KISSINGER

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